

REMARKS

Claims 1, 4, 5, 7, 12-15, and 21-25 remain in the application with claims 2, 3, 6, 8-11, and 16-20 having been cancelled, without prejudice or disclaimer. New claims 26-29 have been added.

Reconsideration is respectfully requested of the rejection of claims 6, 7, 10, and 11 under 35 USC 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite.

The claims have been amended hereby to make it more clear that the operation of the audio playback section of the inventive apparatus is provided when the lid is closed relative to the portable housing. This is detected by the opening/closing detector means recited in the claims. As now set forth in the claims, the control means controls the audio reproducing means to reproduce the memory location of the text data upon determining that the lid has been closed.

Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that the claims are clear and definite in their recitation of the present invention and meet all requirements of 35 USC 112.

Reconsideration is respectfully requested of the rejection of the claims under 35 USC 103, as being unpatentable over Reavey et al. in view of Haas et al.

As described in the present specification, the present invention is intended to provide an information processing apparatus that in one mode provides textual data displayed on a display portion of the device and in another mode provides an audio playback of the same textual data in a closed mode of

operation. In the first mode of operation, the lid is opened relative to the housing so that the display panel is evident to the user and the textual data is scrolled across the display panel. Should the user decide to close the lid of the device, clearly the display panel would no longer be visible and the present invention provides for producing an audio program corresponding to the textual data that was being displayed. The audio data picks up from the point that the lid was closed by the use of a detector that detects the closing operation of the lid and by use of a memory that memorizes the point in the textual data in which the lid closing operation was detected. Then the reproduction of the audio data can be started from the closing point or ending point of the textual data, so that continuity is ensured.

The claims have been amended hereby to emphasize the above-noted features of the present invention.

Reavey et al. relates to a so-called electronic book in which textual data from various kinds of data inputs may be displayed upon display panels provided for the user. As correctly noted by the examiner, Reavey et al. is completely silent concerning any audio reproducing means or any circuitry or the like to control the actuation of such an audio reproducing device. Moreover, Reavey et al. never suggests that somehow an audio program could correspond to the textual data being displayed visually to the user.

Haas et al. is cited for disclosing the playback of audio data. It is respectfully submitted that Haas et al. is not an electronic book as is Reavey et al. Haas et al. provides a

so-called talking picture album for photographic prints. Haas et al. provides a text display panel as shown in Fig. 5 that might provide the overall title of the album, such as "Vacation 1997". Haas et al. provides a microphone and audio recording system so that audio program material might be recorded for each individual picture and as the pictures or pages are turned the audio program could be played back. There is no suggestion in Haas et al. that the information being displayed corresponds to the audio data and, in fact, as seen from the small display, it could not correspond to the audio data. Furthermore, and more importantly, Haas et al. is completely silent concerning switching over from a textual display to an audio display upon detecting that the front and back covers have been closed.

Moreover, there is no suggestion in either Reavey et al. or Haas et al. of any benefits to be had by placing the self-recorded audio program material in the electronic book of Reavey et al. Furthermore, there is clearly no suggestion of any benefits to be had by having a system, such as that of the claimed invention, in which the audio data corresponds to the textual data and remembering where the point was in the textual data where the lid was closed so that the audio data could be picked up and played back from that point.

Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that Haas et al., even being combined in the notional combination as made by the examiner with Reavey et al., would not have rendered the presently claimed invention obvious to one with ordinary

skill in the art at the time the invention was made.

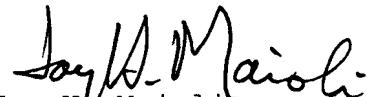
Accordingly, in view of the amendments made to the claims hereby, as well as the above remarks, it is respectfully submitted that an information processing apparatus that in an open mode provides visual display of textual data and in a detected closed mode provides corresponding audio data that commences from the point at which the closed mode was detected, as taught by the present invention and as recited in the amended claims, is neither shown nor suggested in the cited references, alone or in combination.

The references cited as of interest have been reviewed and are not seen to show or suggest the present invention as recited in the amended claims.

Favorable reconsideration is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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